



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION BULLETIN

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Subject: Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA) 03-1 to 03-5, NFPA Life Safety Code

Applicability: Directive

1. References:

- a. National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 101, Life Safety Code.
- b. Unified Facilities Criteria (UFC) 3-600-01, Fire Protection Engineering For Facilities.

2. Tentative Interim Amendments (TIA) 03-1 to 03-5, to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), a.k.a. the Life Safety Code (reference 1a), was issued by NFPA with an effective date of 15 August 2003. In addition to establishing requirements for crowd managers, means of egress inspections, and more restrictive requirements for facilities with festival seating, the TIAs require sprinkler protection in all new nightclub-type facilities, and in existing nightclub-type facilities with occupant load exceeding 100 persons. These include bars, dance halls, discotheques, nightclubs and assembly occupancies with festival seating. Examples of Army nightclub facilities are the Officer Clubs, NCO Clubs and EM Clubs. These code changes were in response to the nightclub fire in West Warwick, RI, and the E2 nightclub crowd crush incident in Chicago. These incidents both occurred in February 2003 and collectively resulted in 121 fatalities.

3. UFC 3-600-01 (reference 1b) requires compliance with the Life Safety Code for both new and existing facilities. TIA 03-1 thru 03-5 are considered part of the Life Safety Code. Paragraph 1.4.2 of the UFC specifically states that existing facilities that do not meet the requirements of NFPA 101 for existing occupancies must be brought up to the minimum requirements for existing occupancies. Existing non-sprinklered nightclub type facilities with an occupant load exceeding 100 persons will be provided with complete automatic sprinkler protection. Sprinkler installation projects will be awarded no later than 30 September 2006. All other TIA requirements, such as means of egress inspections and the requirement for a crowd manager, are effective immediately.

4. This bulletin has been coordinated with Mr. Bruce Park, DAIM-FDF-F. The point of contact for this action is Robert DiAngelo, HQUSACE/CECW-ET, 202-761-5543.

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